

15 June 1972

~~TOP SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DCI

SUBJECT: USIB-Directed Interagency Meetings on Vietnam
(For DCI comment at USIB session 15 June)

Three meetings were held in the period 12-19 May to discuss Vietnam, particularly Soviet and Chinese interests and possible responses to the changed supply situation. The meetings served to increase the amount of information available to the various agencies and to surface their respective assessments. Agreement was reached on the main lines of Soviet and Chinese behavior in the circumstances produced by the President's speech of 8 May. It was also agreed to reserve any specific judgments on the military effects of our air and sea operations until more data on bomb damage and communist countermeasures became available.

A number of the participants told us that they found the sessions very useful, especially because they were producing urgent items on the subject at the time and needed reassurance that they were abreast of all information and analysis. Our impression is that the agencies stayed pretty well together on the main issues in their unilateral production and that these meetings probably helped.

We do not plan further sessions at this time but think that a good precedent was established. You might wish to ask members whether they would favor resort to this device of informal Community coordination again should similar circumstances recur.

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JOHN HUIZENGA
Director

National Archives